



Trinity St Mary's C of E VA Primary School



Friday 24th January 2025



DEDICATION



HONESTY

Our Core Christian Values

School Hours

Gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am for all children.

The school day finishes at 3.25pm for all children.

Lunchtime Cup

This week the Lunchtime Cup is awarded to **Frankie** in **Ruby** class for demonstrating our Christian Values. Well done!

House Points

Fenn	63
Shaw	123
Tabrums	110
Marsh	55



Kindness Star of the Week

Well done to:

Humite – Bethan

Emerald – Owen

Amber – Jessica

Ruby – Ava

Topaz – Darcey

As we are now recognised as a kindness school we are sent a certificate every term to award to a pupil who has demonstrated an outstanding act of kindness. Staff are always looking for children who have demonstrated kindness in school. We now have kindness stickers to acknowledge this. **If you want to nominate a child, whether it be your own or another child in the school, for an outstanding kindness award for an act of kindness outside of school then please email the office.** Senior leaders of the school will then consider all nominations before awarding the certificate at the end of the term.

Class Summary

Each week we will be highlighting what one class has been up to in school.

This week we share an insight into Topaz class.

Topaz Class Summary

Our new term has been as busy as ever, with the children getting very involved with our new topic 'under the canopy' learning all about Rainforest habitats.

In our lesson this week we had a discussion about what we already know about Rainforests. The children came up with some great ideas about what they thought they would find if they visited a Rainforest. They then participated in a fact-finding activity, learning about the different canopy layers and the animals that live there.



All of the children really liked finding out about the two-toed sloth and were amazed to learn that even though it is slow on land, it is an amazing swimmer!

They were also fascinated to learn that Toucans large, brightly-coloured bills (beaks) are used to help scare away predators and also used for eating plants, insects and fruit. The children were surprised to know that Toucans are not great at flying and prefer to get around by hopping from branch to branch in the canopy layer of the rainforest.



The children will be continuing finding out more facts next week and then producing their own Rainforest fact file. I am looking forward to reading them.

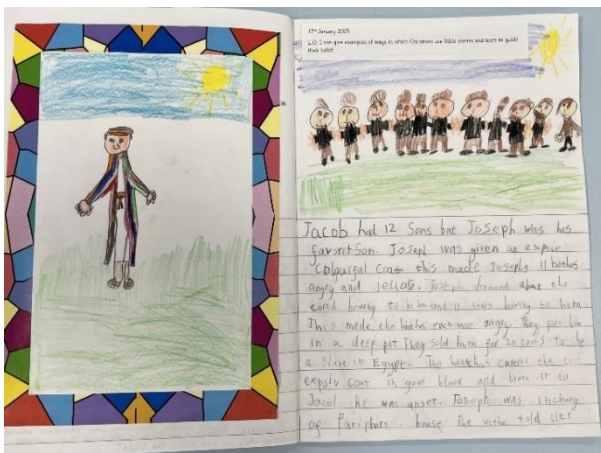
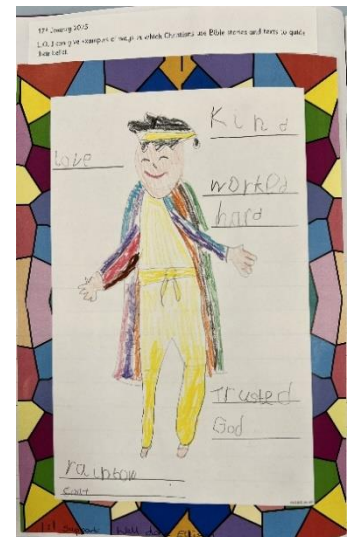
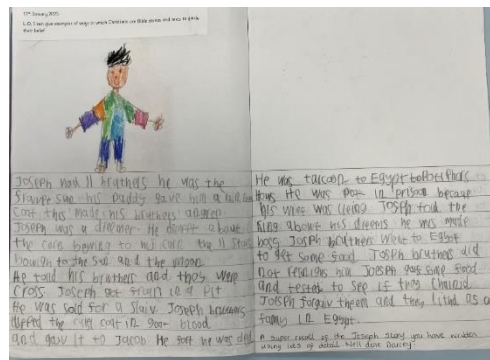
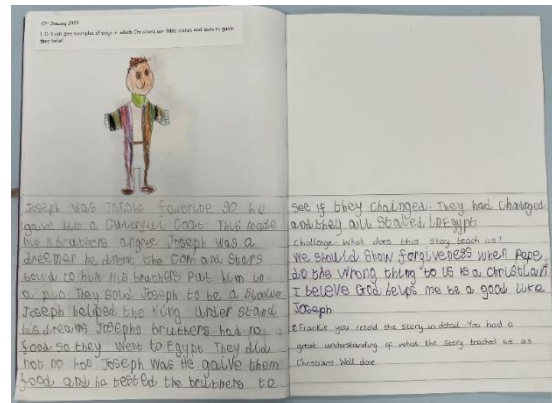
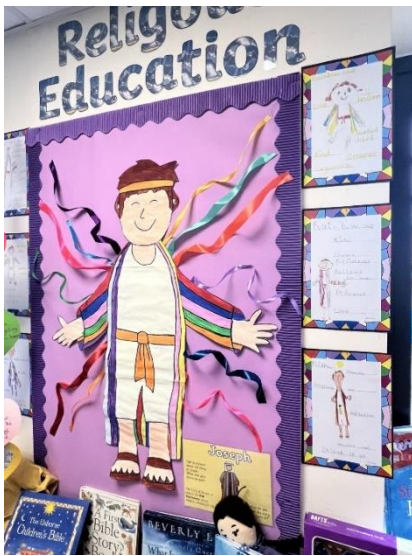
In their independent work, the children have also had great fun pretending that they are intrepid explorers deep in the middle of the Amazon Rainforest in our role play area. I am not sure who is chattier, the children or the parrots!



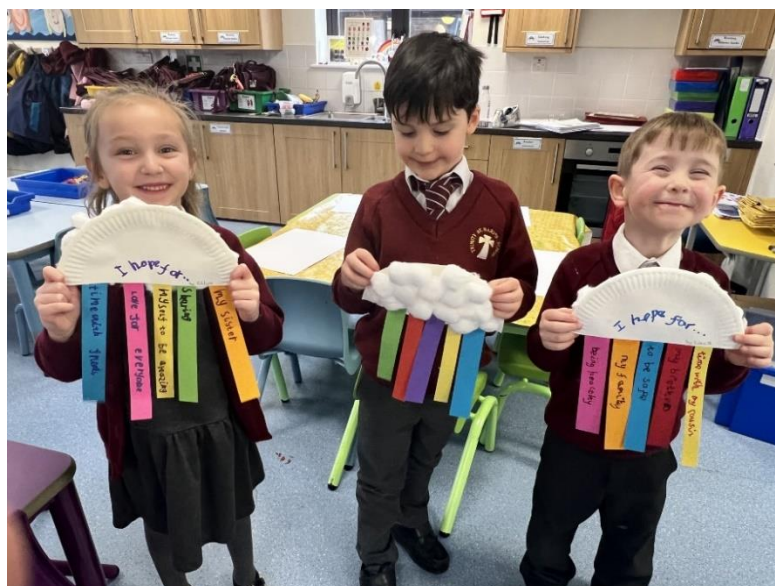
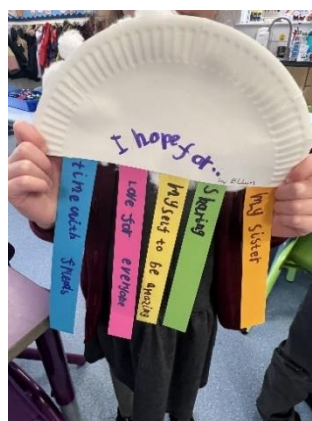
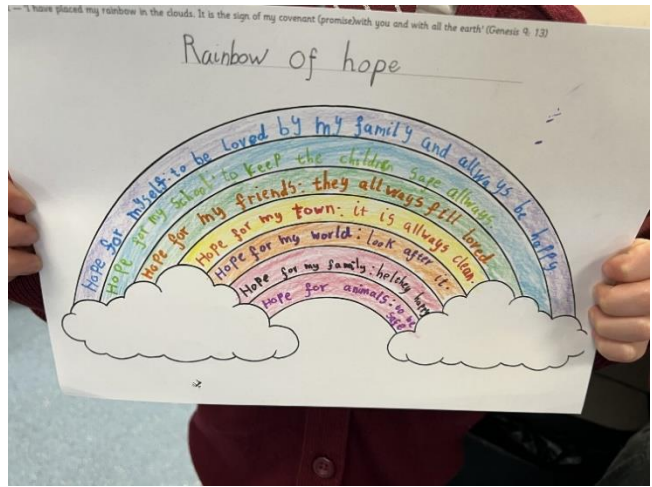
The children are continuing to impress me with their phonics. In addition to focusing on their rapid recall of their phonemes, the children in Reception have also started to develop their recognition of digraphs. The children are very good at using phonics terminology and are very good at explaining that a digraph is two letters that make one sound. Great work Reception!

Our Year One children are also doing brilliantly with their phonics. They have been working hard to recognise and recall the complex alphabetic code of alternative spellings. In each lesson I have been challenging the children by asking them to work out which spelling pattern they need for a particular word. They are getting very good at this, so I am having to make the challenge trickier each time. Impressive work Year One!

In R.E we have been learning all about the Bible and why it is important to Christians. The children can talk about the Old and New Testament and explain what stories are in each part. Over the last couple of weeks, the children have been focusing on the stories of Joseph and his brothers, and Noah's Ark, from the Old Testament. In addition to being able to recall the stories in detail, the children have also thought deeply about the meaning of each story and what we could learn from them. The children also worked together to paint Joseph a very multi-coloured coat. It was great to see them work as a team as they made decisions about what colours they wanted to use where!



When learning about Noah's Ark, the children discussed what it is like to have a new beginning in something and what it feels like to have hope. They then shared with the class their hopes for themselves and for those around them. It was really lovely to read their ideas, especially their hopes for their families and friends. These really showed what kind thoughtful children they are.



We found out that as he got older, Alexander became an artist and that he developed the ideas he had as a child and started to create the most amazing sculptures. The children wowed me by recalling that the moving mobiles that he made were called kinetic sculptures. The children also researched Alexander's other artwork including his two-dimensional lithographs, paintings and tapestries. It was amazing to see how the children interpreted his art when creating their own two-dimensional art work and their own kinetic sculptures. They clearly enjoyed this project and they were very excited to see their work display in the gallery for you all to see.



Thank you to all the children for all your hard work so far this term. I am looking forward to seeing how fabulous you all continue to be!

Well done Topaz class!

Mrs. Allan

Art Gallery

Last Friday we welcomed guests into school to come and view our art gallery. The hall came to life as the doors were open to all our families, Governors, members from the Rotary, Reverend Adrian, Open the Book and to our delight our South Woodham Ferrers Town Mayor, Alan Shearring. The children have loved this year's art focus and were very proud to showcase their work for all to see.





Art Focus

Humite – Victor Vasarely

Emerald – Frank Stella

Amber – Bridget Riley

Ruby – Sonia Delaunay

Topaz – Alexander Calder



Thank you also to the Town Council for allowing us use of their display boards, we were very grateful for the loan.

Attendance

Congratulations to **Topaz** class who have the highest attendance this week, with an attendance of **97.78%**.

Whole school attendance is **94.04%**.

If your child is absent then please remember to report this before 8.30am either by telephone or via Studybugs stating the reason for your child's absence. **We do not accept emails for reporting absence.** Thank you.

Get the app or register now <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Please also be aware that if you plan on taking your child out of school then a leave of absence form must be completed or a copy of the appointment letter must be shown prior to the absence.

Please be reminded that absences need to be reported daily. Therefore if your child is off for more than one day, updates must be provided to the school via Studybugs or voicemail.

We will be rewarding attendance every half term this year. A class receives the attendance cup each week. The class that receives the cup the greatest number of times will receive a treat in the last week of that half term.

Lateness

We are seeing quite a few latecomers each morning, arriving via the office. Please be reminded that the gates close at **08:55** for all children. Any child arriving after this time through the office will be given a late mark and you may be called in to discuss this. All late arrivals must give a satisfactory reason.

Collective Worship

We celebrated Martin Luther King Day on Monday. We learnt that Martin Luther King was a Christian and civil rights leader. He received a Nobel Peace prize for his achievements. We looked at what Christian values Martin Luther King showed and how he showed them. He talked about love over hate in his speeches, he was dedicated in his work.

Miss Frith led collective worship on Tuesday and read the story of 'The tortoise and the hare' We answered the questions; was it fair? Is it just, what happened at the end? We discussed 'perseverance' it's not about how fast we get there but the hard work and dedication that got us to our end goal.

On Wednesday we heard the story of the Good Samaritan. Did the people that walked past the injured man have the right attitude? What about the man that stopped to help? What kind of person were they? He was empathetic, kind, caring. Jesus said 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Who is our neighbour? Friends, family, everyone. We reflected on how we can show kindness to our neighbours and ourselves.

Miss Mason took our last collective worship and told us a story of 'Peters Denial'. After Jesus' arrest Apostle Peter denied knowing Jesus three times just as Jesus said he would. Even though Peter denied knowing Jesus, Jesus still forgave Peter when he apologised. We discussed why Peter denied Jesus – because he was scared. It's ok to make mistakes as long as we learn from them.

By Worship Warriors Grace & Thomas

Eco Committee Meeting

The Eco-Committee met this week, for another successful meeting on moving forward with our three priorities for this year, which are to improve our school grounds, transport and litter picking. The committee split into three small groups to put together an action plan for each of our three areas and came up with some excellent suggestions.

The Eco-Committee members will be producing anti-litter posters to go around the school, each class are to take part in regular litter picking and will appoint litter monitors. We are looking at introducing an anti-idling policy and taking part in the WOW badge competition. The children are also keen to setup a gardening area for each class and take part in 'No Mow May' as well as encouraging families to take part in this at home.

General Reminders

Parent Forum Group

We are looking for a volunteer to represent this year's Ruby class on the Parent Forum. If you would like to put yourself forward as the representative for Ruby class please contact the school office.

Follow us

Thank you to everyone who is following us and liking our posts on Instagram and/or Facebook, please do promote our pages to family and friends.



Nominate FOTSMS – Movement for Good



Please nominate **FOTSMS (Friends of Trinity St Mary's School)** to win £1000. Nominations can be made at **<https://movementforgood.com/#nominateACharity>** using charity number 1084258.

Letters Emailed Home

Parent Governor Vacancies

Humite P.E. Days Change

Amber Class – Topmarks website

Eco Conference – Selected Pupils

Gymastics Training – House Captains

Amber Class Trip

Eco-Committee Anti Litter Poster

Essex Kids Camp – PE Kit Friday 31st January

Drawing/Lego Club Change of Day

Headteacher Summary

What a busy week it has been! On Tuesday we welcomed Chris Speller, an inspector, to carry out a SIAMS inspection. The report should be with us before the half term break. I would like to thank everyone, children, staff, governors, parents and members of the local community who work hard to support our school and allow us to continue to flourish.

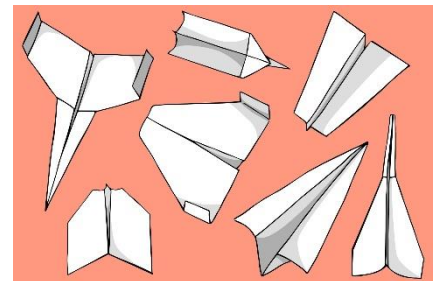


THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Thank you to the parents who met with governors on Thursday afternoon who have an interest in becoming a parent governor at our school. I hope you found the time valuable.

Today has been exciting for Emerald and Humite class. Emerald class has taken part in a STEM national 'Glider Challenge.' The children teamed up to design, build, and test three unique gliders, each a masterpiece of form, shape, and materials. The sky's the limit as they unleashed their creativity and engineering skills! In the afternoon, the mission continued with a ground breaking activity – The Sustainability of Aerospace. The children envisioned and designed the sustainable aircraft of tomorrow, crafting posters to showcase their revolutionary ideas. Humite have thoroughly enjoyed their Titanic themed day which has included; food tasting from 1st, 2nd and 3rd class, pop out art work looking through a port hole, a scientific experiment looking at floating and sinking and a DT project involving a boat in a bottle.



Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Hoy

TSM Key Dates 2025

Please find a list of our key dates below. The list will constantly be updated throughout the school year, so please keep an eye out for any changes. Further information will also be sent home, as usual, closer to the dates if needed.

Autumn Term	
28 th January 2025	NCMP – Reception & Year 6
28 th January 2025	Gymnastics Training – Sports Ambassadors/House Captains
30 th January 2025	Reception Class Road Safety Session
30 th January 2025	Selected Eco-Committee Members Conference @ Woodville
31 st January 2025	Year 5 Road Safety Session
31 st January 2025	Essex Kids Camp – Kurling P.E. Kit
3 rd February 2025	Year 6 Cyber Safety Lesson – Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
5 th February 2025	Young Voices Choir @ O2
14 th February 2025	Kindness Day
17 th February -21 st February 2025	Half Term
4 th March 2025	Amber Class Trip – Colchester Castle
6 th March 2025	World Book Day
12 th March 2025	Emerald – Mighty Oak Session
17 th March 2025	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service – Year 6 Respect Assembly
21 st March – 23 rd March 2025	Swimarathon 2025
24 th March – 28 th March 2025	Travelling Book Fair
28 th March 2025	Essex Kids Camp
2 nd April – 4 th April 2025	Year 6 Residential
7 th April – 21 st April 2025	Easter Holidays
22 nd April 2025	Inset Day
2 nd May 2025	Mighty Oak Competition Day
12 th May – 15 th May 2025	SATS Week
19 th May – 23 rd May 2025	Well Being Week
26 th May 2025	Bank Holiday
27 th May – 30 th May 2025	Half Term
2 nd June 2025	Inset Day
4 th June 2025	Emerald Class – Road to RIAT Virtual Session
6 th June 2025	Carmel Jane – Class/Group Photos
9 th July 2025	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service – Water & Summer Safety Assembly



February 24th - 28th Coin Challenge



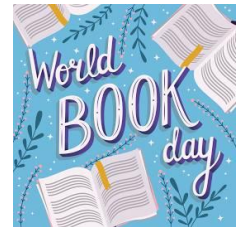
Which class will raise the most amount of money and earn themselves a sweet treat.

Each class will have a jar to put in any loose change / money they can collect in the week.

We will count up the money raised, dividing by the numbers in the class to ensure fairness and the winning class will get a donut treat on the 7th March.

February – 25th & 26th – World Book Day Sale

World Book Day costume and book sale Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th February in the Outdoor Library.



Biggest raffle prize ever!!!

FOTSMS have been generously donated two tickets to the live James Martin show at the Cliffs Pavilion on **March 14th at 7.30pm, by Dan Bunn and Cuffe & Taylor.**

To enter this amazing raffle, a **ticket is £3.00 or 2 entries is £5.00**. You can pass the cash along with your full name to the school office or Marie Knight, or you can bank transfer to FOTSMS with JM and your full name as reference.



Friends of Trinity St Mary's

Sort Code - 60-20-56

Account - 11031352

All money raised will be put towards replacing the laptops the children use within school. The draw will take place on **Friday 14th February**, when the winner will be notified and details of how to collect the tickets will be provided.

Vicki Bohr – Chair FOTSMS



FOTSMS Event Diary

14 th February	James Martin Tickets	Raffle will be drawn and the winner will be announced in the newsletter.
24 th – 28 th February	Coin Jar – Donut Wars Winning Class will get their treat on Friday 7 th March.	The class that raises the most money per child will be crowned the winners and have a doughnut treat to celebrate.
25 th – 26 th February	World Book Day Costume Sale	Come and buy a World Book Day costume for your little one. World Book Day 6th March
28th March	Mother's Day Sale	Gifts can be pre-paid on ParentPay - £1.50 each. There will be a limit of 2 gifts per child. Children can bring cash on the day if you prefer.
24 th March – 31 st March	Easter Egg Raffle Winner announced 1 st April.	Each class will have an Easter Egg that they can win through the class raffle, 50p a ticket, enter as many times as you want!
1 st April	Easter Gifts	Easter gifts to be given to the children.
22 nd May	Clothing Collection	
June 2025	Summer Fete	More details to follow.